

I, J C Alexander, am a General-class amateur radio operator and submit the following comment to RM-10782 (Coppola Petition).

I AGREE with the intent and fully endorse the Petition's statement of keeping the Morse code (CW) sub-bands. It is clear that amateur radio operators worldwide do not use CW as much as in the past, and the recent World Radio Conference 2003 confirmed that the international amateur radio community no longer regards Morse proficiency worthy as international requirement.

I do, however, take exception to one remark in the Coppola Petition. On Page 6, Mr. Coppola notes that Morse code is "...no longer the most effective method for weak signal reception." As an avid digital operator, mostly automatic positioning reporting system (APRS), I disagree. This emission type is an "all or nothing" reception. Either data packets are received in full or not--no middle ground. CW, on the other hand, is excellent for aurora, earth-moonbounce, and even experimentation in the super high frequency (SHF bands). Nevertheless, I point out my disagreement to note that CW remains a viable mode and to re-emphasize Mr. Coppola's plea to keep CW sub-bands.

Respectfully submitted,

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